GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:834
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007
DWARIKA CITY
Singh Shri Chandrabhan Bhaiya

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India ((ASI) and Indian Navy are trying to discover the remains of Dwarika city submerged in the sea near Gujarat coast by conducting a joint survey;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any information has been received from remains collected from the submerged city;

(d) whether the specimen of such remains has been sent to foreign laboratories to get information about them; and

(e) if so, the conclusions drawn so far on the basis of such information?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE(SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (c) The Archaeological Survey of India in collaboration with Indian Navy, has conducted underwater excavation off Dwarka in January − February 2007 with the objective of studying the antiquity and nature of the sunken remains. Diving was carried out in the Arabian Sea near Samundra-Narayan Temple upto a distance of 200 m from shore. Stone blocks and remains of structures, lying on the seabed, were cleaned and documented. These submerged remains are fragmentary in nature and are lying scattered on the seabed. Hence it is difficult to determine their provenance.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.